# **WASHINGTON STATE PATROL**

QUARTERLY REPORT FOR AGENCY BUREAUS APRIL – JUNE 2003



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# Message from the Chief



Chief Ronal W. Serpas

I am proud to present you with the Washington State Patrol's *April-June 2003 Quarterly Report* of our services. This report features the accomplishments of each of our six agency bureaus: **Management Services, Field Operations, Investigative Services, Technical Services, Fire Protection, and Forensic Laboratory Services**. Each bureau continually strives to enhance the quality of life for the people of Washington.

I am pleased to tell you that the Washington State Patrol has been selected by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) as the first place "National Chief's Challenge" winner in the largest category of State Patrol/Police agencies—those departments with over 1,000 sworn employees for our work in 2002. In addition to this year's first place standing, the Washington State Patrol was selected as the

winner of this year's prestigious "Clayton J. Hall Memorial Award." The State Patrol was selected as the winner out of 410 entries worldwide, the largest in the National Chief's Challenge twelve-year history. The IACP defines this special award "for the law enforcement agency that best represents what a comprehensive traffic safety program should be." This is the highest traffic law enforcement award given by the IACP. When an organization does outstanding work, it gets noticed. This is a tremendous achievement.

I believe this recognition is a testament to the efforts of each and every employee of the State Patrol, and further evidence that our Accountability Driven Leadership strategy is making a difference. I could not be prouder of this accomplishment by our amazing team of professionals, who see our mission of saving lives and protecting our quality of life as their number one priority.

I invite your comments and questions and encourage you to e-mail me at questions@wsp.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

CHIEF RONAL W. SERPAS

#### On the cover:

**Technical Services Bureau:** Communications Officer Craig Larsen instructs communications class; **Field Operations Bureau:** Trooper Bruce Maier near Deception Pass bridge in Island County; **Forensic Laboratory Services Bureau:** Forensic Scientist Matthew Gamette analyzes DNA from a handgun; **Investigative Services Bureau:** Trooper Orest Wilson has his sight on the target; **Fire Protection Bureau:** Fire Training Academy instructor Bob Jones instructing students; **Management Services Bureau:** Angie Peterson of Budget and Fiscal Services verifies important numbers.

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# Diane C. Perry, CPA Bureau Director Management Services Bureau

The Management Services Bureau is responsible for management of all agency financial activities; preparation, justification, and allotment of the department's operating and capital budgets; fiscal notes on proposed legislation; human resource services to Washington State Patrol employees, the agency, and the public; comprehensive facilities management; performance of agency studies, research, revisions to manuals,



performance measures, and regulation development; purchasing and management of supplies; and management of the fleet of Washington State Patrol pursuit and other vehicles.

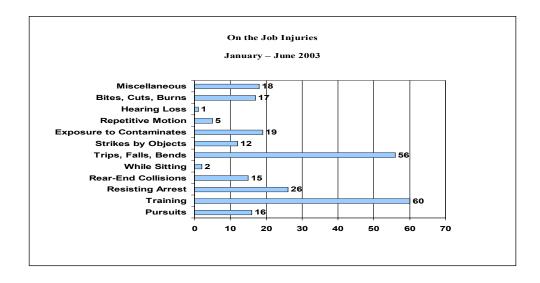
#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill 5935 transferred many fire mobilization responsibilities from the Washington Military Department to the Washington State Patrol (WSP). The bill was signed by the Governor on May 20, 2003, with an effective date of July 27, 2003.

On July 27, 2003, the WSP shall be responsible for the review and approval of the Fire Services Mobilization Plan, for the mobilization of jurisdictions under the Fire Services Mobilization Plan, and for the development of procedures to facilitate reimbursement to mobilized jurisdictions. Both the Military Department and the WSP agreed that effective July 1, 2003, all fire mobilization costs and payment duties will be performed by the WSP, including payroll for volunteer firefighters and processing any injury claims.

## QUALITATIVE OR QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENT

To help reduce employee job injuries and minimize insurance premiums, the WSP began tracking job injuries by type of injury, shown in the graph below. This data is used to identify problem areas and trends. Safety teams also use this data to identify training issues relevant to injury prevention. Our Claims Manager oversees these efforts to help minimize factors affecting job injury and insurance costs.



# MANAGEMENT SERVICES BUREAU (CONTINUED)

#### SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The agency received two Homeland Security grants: one for \$50,000 to provide Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE) training and a second grant for \$379,000 to develop an on-line CBRNE training program. In addition, the agency has applied for Homeland Security grants to reimburse the agency for \$115,000 in overtime and \$1.5 million to purchase new mobile and portable radios.

The agency received verbal approval from the U.S. Department of Justice of a \$250,000 grant to install video cameras in 40 vehicles. A \$580,000 grant has been approved by the U.S. Department of Transportation to implement the "New Entrants" program by the Commercial Vehicle Division.

# Lowell M. Porter Deputy Chief Field Operations Bureau

The Field Operations Bureau (FOB) is primarily responsible for traffic law enforcement, collision investigation, and motorist assists on 17,524 miles of state and interstate highways. The bureau is comprised of eight districts, the Special Operations Division, Aviation Section, Executive Protection Unit, Canine Unit, Explosives Unit, Honor Guard, and Vessel and Terminal Security. There are a total of 811 traffic officers assigned to FOB.



#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Field Operations Bureau has defined its core mission as addressing **DUI**, **Speed**, **Aggressive Driving**, and **Occupant Protection** (those violations that cause the most collisions and/or injuries). By focusing our efforts on these "core mission" areas, we have realized significant increases in each of these focus areas.

### QUALITATIVE OR QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENT

The table below reflects the results of our efforts in the second quarter of 2003 compared to the first quarter of 2002:

	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2002	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2003	Difference	Percent Change
DUI	4,184	5,235	1,051	25%
Aggressive Driving	7,979	10,728	2,749	34%
Speed Arrests	71,095	70,910	(185)	-0.3%
Speed Contacts	144,597	144,987	390	0.3%
Occupant Protection (Arrests)	20,124	26,754	6,630	33%
Occupant Protection (Contacts)	24,420	34,061	9,641	39%
Total Violator Contacts	384,329	380,561	(3,768)	-1%
Felony Warrants	626	635	9	1%
Misdemeanor Warrants	2,212	2,565	353	16%
Drugs - Felony	409	510	101	25%
Drugs - Misdemeanor	1,653	1,957	304	18%

The desired outcome of our enforcement efforts is to improve public safety. There has been a **19%** decline in the total number of collisions during the first six months of 2003. This has included reductions in all types of collisions—specifically a **6%** decline in property damage collisions, **14%** decline in injury collisions, and a **1%** decline in fatality collisions. This has been achieved while vehicle miles traveled on state roadways have increased an estimated 2% to 3% since 2001.

	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2002	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2003	Difference	Percent Change
Total Reportable Collisions	7,200	6,918	(282)	-4%
Fatal Collisions	65	79	14	21%
Injury Collisions	2,680	2,461	(219)	-8%
Property Damage	4,455	4,378	(77)	-2%

# FIELD OPERATIONS BUREAU

(CONTINUED)

#### SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The WSP Field Operations Bureau (FOB) is actively involved in many programs designed to protect the citizens who travel throughout Washington State. While pursuing the successes listed for declining collision numbers, the personnel assigned to FOB have also made a great impact in increasing and maintaining seat belt use rates. The WSP partnered with the Washington Traffic Safety Commission and participated in the national "Click It Or Ticket" (CIOT) seat belt enforcement campaign from May 19 through June 19, 2003. This campaign was also held during the same time period last year. Five traveling teams were deployed in different areas of the state that had proportionally low percentages of speed and seat belt compliance. The following table compares the activity of the five special emphasis teams from 2002 to the activity of the 2003 special emphasis teams.

SUMMARY	2002		2003	Difference/
Five Team Comparison	Activity Log		y Log	Percent Change
Total Number of Contacts	6,124		5,691	-433 / (7%)
Seat Belt NOIs	1,024	ļ.	1,074	+50 / 4.8%
Child Restraint NOIs	98		57	-41 / (41.8%)
Total NOIs	3,942	2	4,254	+312 / 7.9%
Criminal Citations	32		60	+18 / 87.5%
Alcohol-Related Arrests	7		12	+5 / 71.4%
Drug-Related Arrests	7		7	0 / 0%
Other Custodial/Warrant Arrests	15		7	-8 / (53.3%)
Total NOIs and Arrests	3,971		4,340	369 / 9.2%
Contacts per Hour	4.37		4.06	
NOIs/Arrests per Hour	2.83		3.10	
Compliance Rate for Seat Belts				
Pre-Emphasis	84.6%	6	93.2%	+8%
Post-Emphasis	92.6%		94.2%	+1.6%

By focusing on our four core missions and by engaging in partnerships, the State Patrol is making a difference in public safety and in the lives of Washington's citizens everyday.

## Maurice C. King Deputy Chief Technical Services Bureau

The Technical Services Bureau provides many diverse services to the entire department, other law enforcement and government agencies, and members of the general public. The services include information technology, employee training and development, electronic and microwave system services, emergency communications, and criminal history.



### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

#### **FIREARMS TRANSITION**

Late in 2002, the State Patrol began to explore the possibility of changing the sidearm issued to its armed personnel. The 9mm Beretta was due for some costly maintenance and this was a good time to explore a change in weapons.

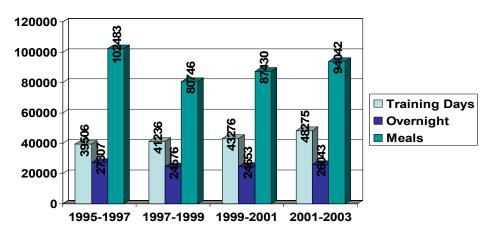
The Supply Section took the lead in the procurement process. A committee composed of a broad cross-section of armed personnel evaluated several weapons, including the 9mm Beretta. The consensus of the committee was to change to the Heckler and Koch .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol.

The purchase would be funded with a combination of budget savings and revenues from the sale of the Beretta. All of this required that the entire transition be completed by May 30, 2003, to ensure proper budget reconciliation. The Department of Purchasing approved a vendor in mid-January and the transition began.

The Training Division was then tasked with providing transition training to over 1,000 armed employees. The training began on February 21, 2003, and involved 54 two-day training sessions.

## QUALITATIVE OR QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENT

# Facility Usage Comparisons By Biennium



# TECHNICAL SERVICES BUREAU (CONTINUED)

### SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Training Division's already full schedule required that much of the training take place on weekends. This presented a significant scheduling challenge for Supply Section staff, who issued the weapon at each session, and Academy staff, who provided the training and maintained the facilities. The Supply Section and Training Division met every challenge and completed the transition by May 30, 2003.

The transition training for the Beretta sidearm took one year. The transition training for the Heckler and Koch took 16 weeks. This could not have been accomplished without the cooperation and commitment of everyone involved.

# Steven T. Jewell Deputy Chief Investigative Services Bureau

The Investigative Services Bureau consists of five divisions that provide various public services, including the investigation of computer crimes, missing children, narcotics, dismantling of clandestine labs, and the gathering of criminal intelligence; public records and records retention; inspection of commercial vehicles and school buses; fatality and criminal investigations.



#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The WSP Commercial Vehicle Division (CVD) has defined its traffic enforcement core mission as addressing **speed**, **following too close**, **aggressive driving**, and **left lane violations**. These violations have been identified as causing the most collisions and/or injuries involving commercial vehicles. CVD has responded to a public outcry for the enforcement of left lane violations, which will facilitate a smoother flow of traffic, decrease driver frustration, and curtail aggressive driving.

## QUALITATIVE OR QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENT

## **CVD Activity Comparison**

	2nd Quarter 2003	2nd Quarter 2002	Change	Change (%)	
Speed	2,191	1,291	900	70%	
Following Too Close	277	143 134		94%	
Left Lane Violation	359	Data not Available			
Seat Belt Enforcement	349	315	34	11%	
Aggressive Driving	90	13	77	592%	
Inspections	37,988	30,388 7,600		25%	

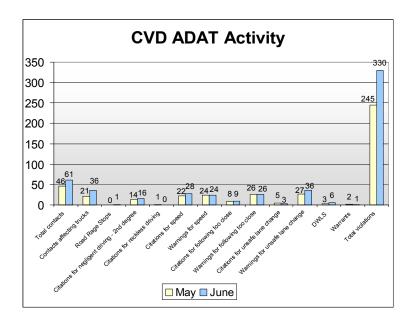
#### SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### AGGRESSIVE DRIVING APPREHENSION TEAM (ADAT)

The public perception is trucks cause the majority of the collisions they are involved in. Our data revealed in 2002, 76% of fatality collisions involving a commercial vehicle were actually caused by a passenger car. CVD responded to this information by developing an Aggressive Driving Apprehension Team (ADAT) program. The first step was to deploy the vehicle, an unmarked Chevrolet Tahoe. Using federal funds, the ADAT vehicles will be deployed across the state by the end of the year. The ADAT vehicles will focus solely on aggressively driven

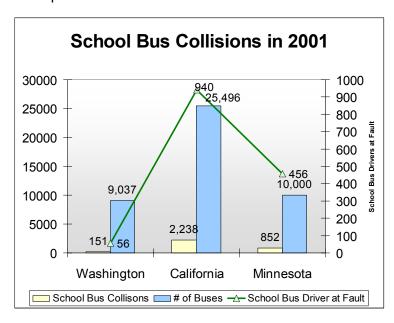
# INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES BUREAU (CONTINUED)

trucks and passenger cars being driven erratically in the area of trucks. CVD identified a definite need to educate the public of the added safety concerns present when driving near semi-trailers.



#### **SCHOOL BUS INSPECTION PROGRAM**

CVD inspects 9,037 public school buses every summer and an additional 2,259 during the winter months. A committed partnership with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction has resulted in an excellent school bus safety record. There have been no equipment-caused fatality collisions in the past 50 years. School bus drivers log over 90 million miles annually, transporting 455,000 children daily to and from public schools. The yellow school bus remains the safest form of transportation for school children.



# Mary L. Corso Bureau Director Fire Protection Bureau

The Office of the State Fire Marshal, Fire Protection Bureau, provides services to fire districts, government agencies, members of the media, and the general public. These services include fire investigations; fire incident reporting and data collection; fire code review and adoption; construction plan review for fire sprinkler and alarm systems; and fire inspections of high risk occupancies housing elderly and vulnerable populations. In addition, the



bureau regulates the fireworks and sprinkler industry through a licensing program. The State Fire Training Academy provides training to the state's fire departments and districts. The Fire Protection Bureau also provides coordination of Washington State fire service resources for mobilization during natural or human-caused disasters. Terrorism and hazardous materials training, fire and life safety prevention education, and public information services are also responsibilities of the Fire Protection Bureau.

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

# FIRE FIGHTER RECRUIT SCHOOL — IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FIRE SERVICE AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROFESSIONALS

The program is designed for career and volunteer firefighters as well as individuals participating in an Associate Fire Science Degree Program. The course syllabus exceeds the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001 *Professional Qualifications for Fire Fighters* (1997 edition), (NFPA) 1500 *Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program* (1997 edition), and Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 296-305 *Safety Standards for Fire Fighters* requirements. The Recruit School emphasizes manipulative skills, team building, and physical fitness and provides 14 days of extensive, hands-on, live fire training.

Instructors are required to attend training sessions prior to the start of recruit academy training to ensure they are familiar and prepared to present the course content and that courses are instructed consistently. Instructors are evaluated on organizational skills, presentation techniques, and interaction with students each time they present a class and receive an overall rating of their presentation.

Recruits are evaluated in three different areas: academics, skill performance. and team player interaction. Evaluations are then provided to the respective Fire Chief and Training Officer for their review. The final evaluation consists of a written examination and a handson practical examination of their manipulative skills.

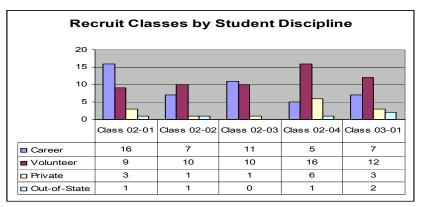
To participate in the ten-week Recruit Program, each applicant must be first aid and CPR qualified, complete a respirator face piece fit-test, complete a physical and health qualification standard, and submit evidence of having passed a physical ability test. Upon arrival at the Fire Training Academy, each new recruit participates in a fitness and wellness assessment to identify the recruit's current fitness and wellness baseline and to track their progress throughout the training.

# FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU (CONTINUED)

## QUALITATIVE OR QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENT

In 2002, the Fire Training Academy completed four Recruit Schools with a total of 97 students graduating. Of these, 83 were members of state fire departments and districts, 3 were from out-of-state fire departments, and 11 were participating in Associate Fire Science Degree Programs. Of the 11 students enrolled in an Associate Fire Science Degree Program, two came from Guam and one was from Hawaii.

In the first six months of 2003, the Fire Training Academy has completed two Recruit Schools with a total of 56 graduates. Of these, 49 were members of state fire departments and districts, one was from out of state, and six were participating in Associate Fire Science Degree Programs.



#### SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Additional training was added to the course curriculum following the recommendations and needs of the fire service and community colleges, including:

- Vehicle Extrication
- Survivability for Firefighters
- Accountability
- Flashover Training
- Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations Level Training
- Wellness/Fitness Program
- Nutritional Program for Firefighters
- Forcible Entry
- Residential and Flat-Roof Ventilation

All recruits are required to participate in a health, wellness, fitness, and physical training program each day. This program includes cardiovascular endurance and aerobic activities, strength and flexibility programs, as well as specific firefighter tasks and fitness-for-duty activities. Each recruit is evaluated at the beginning and at the end of the recruit school to assess their physical fitness. This program provides students with the skills necessary to develop a solid foundation for physical and mental health throughout their firefighting career.

# Dr. Barry K. Logan Bureau Director Forensic Laboratory Services Bureau

The Forensic Laboratory Services Bureau (FLSB) provides a wide range of forensic science expertise to city, county, and state law enforcement officers, assisting agencies at crime scenes, preparing evidence for trials, and providing expert testimony. The bureau coordinates the efforts of the State's Breath Alcohol Test Program, Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC)

Program, six Crime Laboratories, the Latent Print Laboratory, and the State Toxicology Laboratory.



## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

THE INTEGRATED BALLISTIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (IBIS)

What can the WSP do to help law enforcement solve violent crimes committed with firearms?

The answer is that the Patrol can provide a full range of specialized investigative and forensic services to help solve violent firearms-related crimes. Traditionally, the Patrol has provided local law enforcement with:

## • Crime Scene Investigation

- Forensic scientists and detectives with significant experience in homicides, assaults, and officerinvolved shootings.
- Computer-assisted crime scene documentation.
- Evidence recognition and recovery.
- Bullet trajectory analysis.
- Crime scene reconstruction.

### • Specialized Forensic Laboratory Services

- Firearm operability and characteristics.
- Caliber determination.
- Bullet and cartridge case comparison.
- Firing distance determination.
- Serial number restoration.

It doesn't stop there. Moving beyond the traditional, there is now a new and exciting service offered by the WSP.

Through a partnership with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), the Patrol operates a statewide Integrated Ballistic Identification System (IBIS). The amazing IBIS technology allows firearm examiners and IBIS technicians to capture high resolution images of fired bullets and cartridge cases and store those images in a computerized database. New images entered daily from submitted evidence and seized firearms can be searched against the database to see if there are any specimens that match.

# FORENSIC LABORATORY SERVICES BUREAU (CONTINUED)

IBIS gives examiners the ability to connect previously unrelated violent crimes to one another through the evidence found at crime scenes. It also allows crime scene evidence to be connected to any firearms that have been seized, test-fired, and entered into IBIS. This vital information gives investigators crucial leads in unsolved cases and allows them to interact with their peers in other jurisdictions in order to solve crimes committed by violent and highly mobile criminals.

Before IBIS and the development of digital imaging, firearm examiners would take photographs of evidence through the lenses of their comparison microscopes and pin the photos on bulletin boards reserved for unsolved cases. That system was time-consuming, cumbersome, and in most cases, was very ineffective. Using the new system, examiners can input new evidence during the day and then search the database achieving hits virtually overnight.

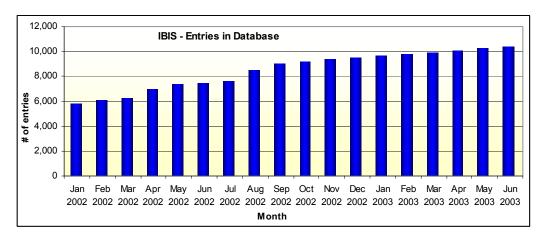
The WSP looks for strategic partnerships in order to improve the delivery of public safety services while at the same time conserving scarce financial resources.

In a strategic alliance with the Patrol, the ATF provides the Patrol with the hardware and software comprising the IBIS system, and the Patrol provides the physical forensic laboratory space and personnel to run the system. Since ATF provides system installation and ongoing maintenance and the Patrol has been able to use existing facilities and personnel, this creative partnership has saved Washington's taxpayers nearly \$2 million in system costs. In addition, the partnership with ATF allows interaction with NIBIN, the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network, which provides connectivity to regional databases throughout the United States.

The WSP's IBIS Program has made significant advances and achieved major results.

#### • The IBIS system has expanded:

- The original installation in the Tacoma Crime Laboratory began operation in 1997.
- A second installation was made in the Seattle Crime Laboratory and was operational when the new laboratory opened in December 2002.
- A third installation was made in the Spokane Crime Laboratory and was operational in February 2003.



## FORENSIC LABORATORY SERVICES BUREAU

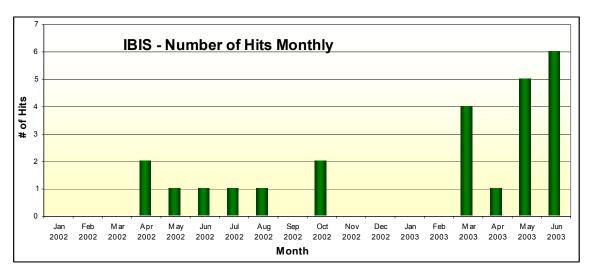
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### The IBIS database is growing:

- Since its inauguration in 1997, the IBIS database has grown from 0 to over 10,000 images.
- The database has increased by 70% in the last 18 months alone.

### • The IBIS system has made 50 hits to date:

- In the last 12 months, IBIS has provided 25 hits.
- This is a 400% increase over the previous 12 months.
- The Patrol's IBIS system is in the top 5% nationally based upon the number of exhibits in the database.



To date, there have been 50 confirmed hits using the IBIS system and there are two more hits pending confirmation. Below are some actual case examples of hits that have been made.

• Hit #36: Pierce County Sheriff's Department [event date January 12, 2003] 9mm Luger/shots fired call/shots were fired at a gas station, but when police arrived it was determined that no one was injured. Witnesses claimed they saw nothing. IBIS correlated the PCSO evidence to a Tacoma Police Department case [event date December 20, 2002] 9mm Luger/shots fired and destruction of property call/unknown suspect(s) fired fifteen to twenty shots into a car. A young man in or near the car was shot once in the thigh. Upon arrival at the hospital, the victim refused to tell police what happened. Detectives think the incident was a drug deal that had gone sour.

*Hit #37:* Tacoma Police Department [event date April 19, 2003] 9mm Luger/drive-by shooting call/a group of young Asian men were sitting on a porch when a car pulled up and the occupants, another group of young Asian men, got out and began firing at the house. A number of spent cartridge cases were found in the street and one fired bullet was found in a neighbor's house. IBIS correlated the TPD evidence to another TPD case [event date March 13, 2003] 9mm Luger/drive-by shooting/unknown suspects fired upon a house in an area of high Asian gang activity.

#### FORENSIC LABORATORY SERVICES BUREAU

(CONTINUED)

- *Hit #38:* Tacoma Police Department [event date April 19, 2003] 9mm Luger/the same case listed above was correlated by IBIS to another TPD case [event date February 6, 2003] 9mm Luger/drive-by shooting. (The February 6th shooting was previously correlated by IBIS to another case which was Hit #33.) The February 6th incident was a case where multiple shots were fired into a house about four doors down from a well-known gang hideout. The detective involved with these cases feels the shots were meant for the gang house and the house down the street was fired upon by mistake.
- Hit #39: Tacoma Police Department [event date April 19, 2003] 9mm Luger/the same
  case listed above was also correlated by IBIS to another TPD case [event date January 7,
  2003] 9mm Luger/shots fired call/shots were fired in a neighborhood and soon after a twodoor black 1990s Honda seen driving away. No one was injured in the shooting. Spent
  cartridge cases were recovered from the street.
- *Hit #40:* Pierce County Sheriff's Department [event date April 30, 2003] .25 Auto/found property/a gun found by PCSO was correlated by IBIS to evidence collected in a Tacoma Police Department case [event date October 28, 2002] .25 Auto/shots fired call/a fight broke out in a parking lot. A suspect fired numerous shots from a .25 semiautomatic pistol. No injuries were reported and no gun was found immediately following the fight. A suspect was later arrested and convicted for his role in the shooting.

Armed with the information IBIS can provide, detectives have a much better chance of sorting out and solving the numerous violent crimes committed with firearms. As the database grows, so will the number of hits, and so will the number of cases solved.

The Patrol is reaching out to all local law enforcement to submit seized firearms and fired bullets and cartridge cases recovered from crime scenes and autopsies. Great progress has been made to date, and with the help of local law enforcement, the Patrol will achieve even greater results as time goes by.

#### Expert staff and training have made a difference.

With the help of ATF, the Patrol has been able to send 7 examiners to specialized training in Florida. This training provides updated techniques and helps examiners streamline the process of capturing and entering images into the database.

The photograph depicts one of the Patrol's most successful IBIS operators in front of the IBIS workstation. IBIS Technician Carol Moreno has entered more images than any other staff member, and has become the most efficient



member of the team both in terms of volume of work and system operation. The Patrol's high degree of success is due to experts like Carol and the many important functions carried out each day in order for the system to operate at peak efficiency.